



Television • Radio • Learning Services • Technology Services

Nebraska's PBS & NPR stations

Spring 2006, Issue No. 14

# PARTNERS

## DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL

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**Save the date:**  
April 30!  
An exciting NET benefit featuring Joel Sartore. See page 9 for details.

NET's mission is to connect Nebraska with stories and events that challenge and inspire every individual.

NET's mission is to connect Nebraska with services that honor the history, enrich the people and strengthen the future of every community.

NET's mission is to connect Nebraska.

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# Message from the General Manager

**“People without history is like wind on the buffalo grass.”**

– Chief Crazy Horse

Novelist Willa Cather; North Platte's Canteen volunteers; Omaha's first families; the dedicated founders of the University – Nebraska's history brims with vibrant voices, stories and experiences.

No one treasures this history of Nebraska like Nebraskans. We know what makes our state special: the frontier experience; our lively arts community; the stark but spectacular landscape; our competitive athletic spirit.

NET tells the stories that are uniquely Nebraskan, illuminating our place in American culture and breathing life into our rich history.

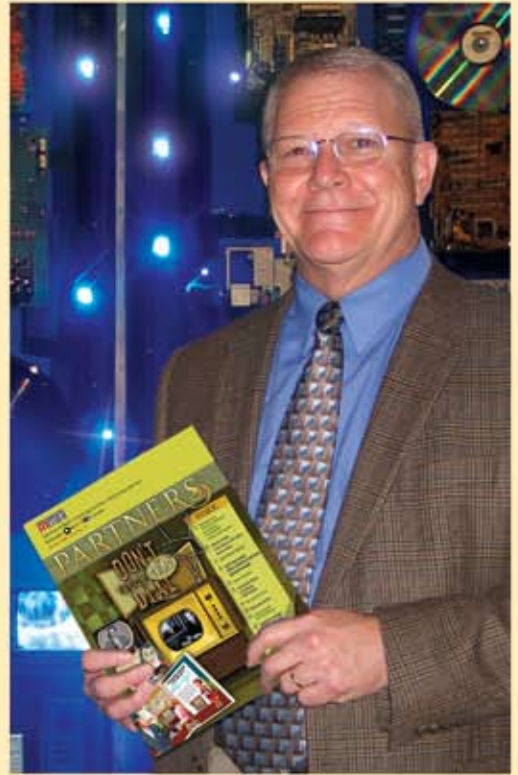
You'll see in this issue of *Partners* that we are continuing this mission to preserve our heritage. Our upcoming productions will whisk you back through the generations, to the swing era of the '30s and '40s and to the magic of early television in the '50s. We'll also offer you a front row seat to witness a conversation between two of America's most intriguing men: Warren Buffett and Bill Gates.

This work is made possible with the help of our partners. We value our relationships with the Nebraska State Historical Society, the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Humanities Council, to name just a few. For example, our collaboration with the Nebraska Department of Education has resulted in a world-class educational Web site – nebraskastudies.org – an online history of our state averaging 2,600 visits a day!

More than 50 years ago NET's founders nurtured a vision – a vision of preserving and sharing all that makes this state remarkable. Nebraskans are indeed a people with history. *Turn It On!*...it's time to celebrate our great state.

Sincerely,

Rod Bates, NET General Manager



## In the News

### Tower Update

Assembly of a 330-foot temporary tower in Holdrege was completed in early January following the late November topping of the 1,065-foot broadcast tower that provided service to NET Radio's KLNE-FM, channel 88.7 and NET Television's KLNE-TV, channel 3 and KLNE-DT, channel 26.

“Building a permanent tower will be a six-to nine-month project,” estimates NET Assistant General Manager for Engineering Michael Beach. “But we are committed to re-establishing permanent service to our viewers and listeners in the area.”

### In the Know

Looking for the latest about NET Radio and Television programming and events? Subscribe to our electronic newsletters, and you'll get up-to-the-minute information delivered straight to your computer. Just visit [netNebraska.org](http://netNebraska.org) and click on the “Get NET Newsletter” button on the left side of the page. Then follow the directions for subscribing. And not to worry...NET will never share your e-mail address outside the NET family. Subscribe now!

## Member Profile



NET Radio supporters Neal and Beverly Kemper.

# Cows Go Classical

Beverly Kemper is up with the sun every morning. In fact, she's up before the sun, heading to the barn to milk cows at the St. Edward dairy farm she runs with her husband, Neal. Kemper milks about 40 cows every morning and night, each time to the tune of NET Radio.

"I can't wait to get out to the barn on Saturday mornings especially," says Kemper. "The classical music seems to relax the cows."

Kemper's tried rock and country music in the barn, but "that just made the cows more kicky," she says. "Classical is soothing to them. They just seem so content."

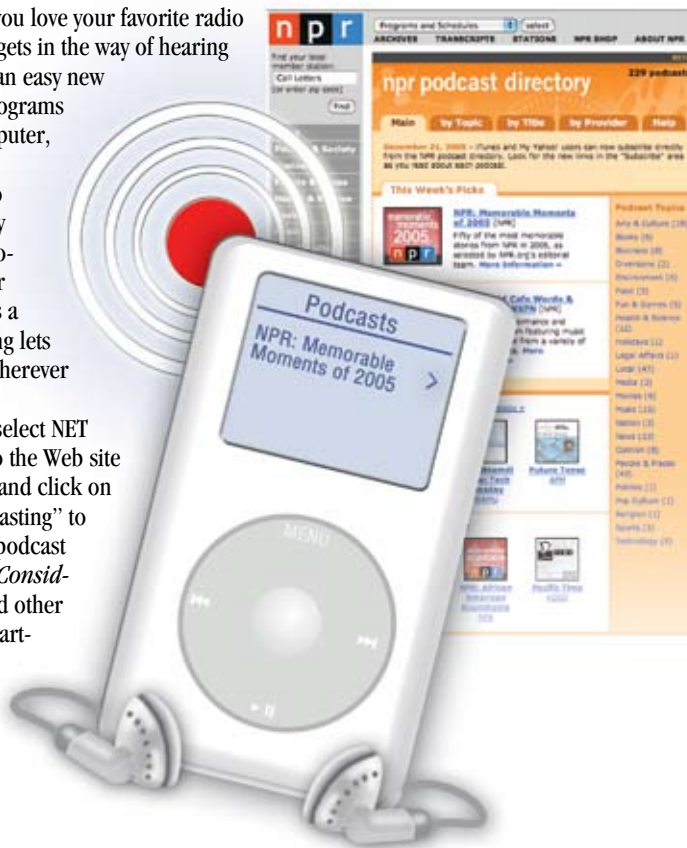
She and the cows also take in *All Things Considered* and *A Prairie Home Companion*, and Kemper tunes in to NET Radio all day in the house. "I've been listening to classical music on public radio for years," says Kemper. "It just livens up my life."

## Paving the Way for Podcasting

No matter how much you love your favorite radio programs, life sometimes gets in the way of hearing them. Enter podcasting – an easy new way to download audio programs automatically to your computer, iPod or other MP3 player.

When you subscribe to a program's podcast, every episode will always be automatically downloaded after it airs — you'll never miss a broadcast again. Podcasting lets you listen whenever and wherever it's convenient for you.

Now you can podcast select NET Radio programs. Just go to the Web site at [netNebraska.org/radio](http://netNebraska.org/radio) and click on "The Basics" under "Podcasting" to learn more. You can also podcast selections from *All Things Considered*, *Morning Edition* and other programs from NPR and partner organizations. Visit [npr.org](http://npr.org) for more information.



## Kooser Kudos

A recent collaboration between U.S. Poet Laureate Ted Kooser and NET will help make poetry more accessible to Nebraskans. *Poetry – Capturing the Moments*, an educational DVD featuring footage from the NET Television original documentary *Ted Kooser's Poetic World* as well as resource materials for teachers and libraries, was distributed this fall to every library and school in the state.

*Funding for this project was provided by the Cooper Foundation, Woods Charitable Fund, the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Library Commission.*

**"Thanks to NET for the DVD. It may just provide the inspiration one person out there needs!"**

– Leola Bonge  
Director, Bennington  
Public Library

**"This DVD is an excellent resource that will be used in the English and Language Arts classes throughout our school district.**

**We are so fortunate to have Ted Kooser as our Poet Laureate, and this is an excellent way to make sure our students have the opportunity to see and hear his work."**

– Mary Reiman  
Director, Library Media Services  
Lincoln Public Schools

**"Thank you for the Plain Poetry DVD. This program will be an asset to our school."**

– Debbe Bundy  
Media Specialist, Dawes  
Middle School



# DON'T TOUCH THAT DIAL

magic tricks and old-fashioned ad-libbing. And just like that, a television star was born.

Tune in this August for an NET Television original documentary, *Don't Touch That Dial!*, which will weave the stories of pioneering broadcasters like Johnny Carson and Tom Brokaw with the rich history of how television came to thrive in Nebraska.

## You have to see it to believe it

Radio stations WOW in Omaha and KMA in Shenandoah, Iowa, had solid reputations as broadcasters, but no experience doing television. Both raced frantically to be the first. WOW General Manager Johnny Gillin gambled, investing thousands in television equipment and loaning it to Creighton University, where engineers and students brainstormed how to make it work. Camera angles, lighting, makeup – everything was an experiment.

The crew practiced on live audiences. Behind a stage curtain they'd perform a mini drama, while the audience in the theater watched the action unfold on a nine-inch television monitor. The broadcast signal traveled one hundred feet.

"That concept – images traveling through the air – had to be seen to be believed," says *Don't Touch That Dial!* Producer Bill Kelly.

## On your mark...

KMA surprised its big city rival, quietly getting its TV broadcast license and purchasing a vacant building in downtown Omaha. Engineers practiced with the new equipment in the basements of their homes. The race was on.

"It was highly unusual to have two competing stations in the same city," notes Kelly. "But it worked. People were ready to sit down and watch."

WOW (eventually to become WOW-TV Channel 6) edged out KMTV Channel 3 by a few weeks, sending out the first test pattern and later regularly scheduled programs to the entire viewing area. The first official program to air was 15 minutes of weather.

"When those sets were powered up, people watched, fascinated," says Kelly. "A TV dealer in West Point had the only set in town, and 200 people showed up to witness the first broadcast."

## Cooks, clowns and the local news

By 1957 Omaha added a third station, and new markets had cropped up in Lincoln, Hastings and North Platte. Each station faced the same challenge: finding material to air every day.

"In the beginning it was essentially video versions of the radio programs that already existed," says Kelly.

Nebraskans still fondly recall early cooking shows hosted by Martha Bohlsen and Bettie Tolson. Programs featuring clowns and cowboys entranced kids for a generation. There were unusual efforts to break new ground: KMTV aired live surgery from an Omaha hospital; KETV hosted professional wrestling from its parking lot.

Television news was born. Live reporting on the Missouri River flood in 1952 impressed the national networks, and dramatic coverage of the Starkweather murder spree stunned all of Nebraska. Young broadcast journalists like Tom Brokaw launched their careers reporting Nebraska news.

## A night of nostalgia

*Don't Touch That Dial!* spans three decades, featuring new and archival interviews, behind-the-scenes photographs and vintage film – some of which haven't been seen for more than 50 years – and concluding with the transition from film to videotape and the decline of local programming in the early 1960s.

"There's such a rich legacy here – the drama, the personalities, the history," says Kelly. "This is the story of how television came to be in Nebraska."

## Television Comes to Nebraska

There was once a fresh-faced young radio announcer, clever and quick, who arrived at work one morning to discover a startling note pinned to the station bulletin board:

"John Carson – I didn't work under 'Johnny' much then – John Carson will do a one-hour television show starting Monday. That was my notice," recalls Carson.

It was 1950, and television was barely a year old in Nebraska. With that program, called *Family Matinee*, Carson and others in Nebraska would soon realize good television was as much the result of accident as inspiration. His set consisted of a few odd props – a roll-top desk, a piano. He filled airtime

with turtle races,



# Coming Up on NET Television...

Check [netNebraska.org](http://netNebraska.org) or your local TV listings for specific dates and times.

**Don't Touch that Dial!** premieres in August on NET Television. Funding for the program was made possible in part by the Nebraska Humanities Council. Funding for the transcription of archival material to digital storage media was provided by the Nebraska State Historical Society.



**MARTHA BOHLSSEN**  
*The Midwest's First Lady  
of The Modern Kitchen*

## Hard Times Swing

Across Nebraska more than 600 banks plunged into bankruptcy. Fifty million Americans struggled to find work. And Nebraska suffered its worst drought since 1864.

But something remarkable happened on the plains during the 1930s and '40s. In the midst of the Great Depression people started dancing, driving as far as 100 miles across dusty roads just to Lindy, Camel and Fishtail to the tunes of the territory swing bands.

"The nights spent dancing in the local ballrooms offered refuge from the grim reality outside," notes *Hard Times Swing* Producer Joel Geyer. "But the dancing also helped Nebraska break out of its cultural isolation and embrace a new, richly diverse American popular culture."

Coming next winter, this original NET Television documentary will explore the history of the territory swing bands and the cultural and social importance of the swing movement in the Midwest.



## Being Buffett and Bill

Business icons Warren Buffett, CEO of Berkshire Hathaway, and Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft Corporation, spent an afternoon in Lincoln this past September talking with 1,800 students from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's College of Business Administration.

The two billionaires spoke at the Lied Center for Performing Arts, fielding students' questions about business, investing, ethics and career decisions.

Buffett and Gates also offered lively bits of advice to the students who were selected to present questions.

"Invest as much in yourself as you can; you are your own best asset by far...then follow your passion," suggested Buffett, while Gates noted,

"Procrastination is not a good habit," admitting that he still battles that tendency himself.

NET Television captured the lively banter between the two good friends, which will comprise a one-hour special to air on NET Television on May 9 and on PBS later this year.

Funding for *Hard Times Swing* is provided in part by the Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Humanities Council.

## In the Mood for Big Band

Don Gill is one of the rare few DJs these days still spinning LPs. In fact, the *Big Band Spotlight* host regularly dips into his own extensive music library to select pieces for his weekly program.

"When we launched the show in 1990 it was mostly vinyl; now it's 90 percent CDs," says Gill. "But I still use one or two selections each week that are only available on LP."

The popular NET Radio program has been swinging strong for 15 years with Gill at its helm. Although he retired in 1997 after a 40-plus-year career in broadcasting (the last 12

years as NET's Director of Development), Gill stayed on as *Big Band Spotlight* host.

"I grew up loving the classics of the Swing Era," says Gill. "Doing the show also keeps me up on the new bands and vocalists carrying on the tradition, such as Michael Buble, whom I started playing months before his recent PBS special."

He connects with band leaders and disc jockeys around the country and pours over Big Band newsletters to stay current.

He also hears from fans statewide.



**BIG BAND  
Spotlight**  
with Don Gill

"I've received letters from listeners in every part of the state," says Gill. "Enthusiasm for Big Band is still very much alive in Nebraska."

*Big Band Spotlight – Turn It On!* Fridays at 9 p.m. CT on NET Radio.

# On the Road with NET Radio

Lincoln attorney Fred Hoppe, of the law firm Hoppe and Harner, hits the road... a lot. He logs about 30,000 miles a year crisscrossing Nebraska. And he always takes one thing with him: NET Radio.

"You can get NET Radio anywhere in the state – some places it's just about the only station you can get," says Hoppe.

## Reaching others through radio

Accessibility is one reason Hoppe supports NET Radio. Recently he made a \$10,000 gift through the Elizabeth Rubendall Foundation to support opera and enhanced jazz programming on NET Radio. His aunt, Elizabeth Rubendall, a former University of Nebraska-Lincoln librarian and a graduate of UNL, was an avid public radio listener – classical music and opera were among her favorites.

The gift enabled NET Radio to purchase field recording equipment, which will allow for the recording and subsequent airing of three live Nebraska jazz concerts during the year.

"Elizabeth was a strong supporter of the local arts, so it feels good to give this donation in her name," says Hoppe. "It's not always possible for someone across the state to attend a live concert in Lincoln. This is a tangible way for others to share the experience through the reach of NET Radio."

## Smart strategizing

Estate planning has multiple benefits, says Hoppe. Not only do you feel good about making an impact, you also reap financial rewards as well. The rate of estate taxes is higher than taxes on earned income annually, explains Hoppe. Because any contributions made to a charitable organization can be deducted for tax purposes, you reduce the overall



Fred Hoppe

taxes on your estate, and you benefit the charities that are important to you. In short, you get more bang for your buck, as the saying goes.

"Why wait?" asks Hoppe. "Giving the gift now made my family and me feel good."

For more information about how to make a gift to the NET Foundations for Radio and Television, please contact Michele Peón-Casanova, NET Director of Individual Giving, at 800.634.6788, or go online at [netNebraska.org](http://netNebraska.org).

## LB 28 Update

LB 28, allowing a charitable tax credit for irrevocable planned gifts and outright gifts to Nebraska's nonprofits, went into effect on January 1, 2006. However, LB 28's sponsor, Senator Matt Connealy, will introduce corrective language to the bill in the 2006 legislative session.

This fall the Nebraska Department of Revenue noted that their interpretation of the bill indicates that a Nebraska individual taxpayer may not take both a federal charitable tax deduction and a Nebraska charitable tax credit for the same irrevocable planned gift to the permanent endowment of a Nebraska non-profit.

"It was the intention of the Nebraska Legislature to allow the Nebraska taxpayer to add back into the Nebraska adjusted gross income the value of the charitable contribution deduction taken on the federal income tax return before calculating the LB 28 credit," explains David Catalan, chair of the Endow Nebraska executive committee.

"We are working with an attorney specializing in tax law to ensure that the new bill in the 2006 legislative session is correctly drafted," says Catalan.

Further updates will be posted on our Web site, [netNebraska.org](http://netNebraska.org), and in future issues of *Partners* magazine.



# NET Card

Show your support



If you are a member of the **NET Foundation for Television** or the **NET Foundation for Radio**

you will receive the NET Card, which entitles you to special discounts with the businesses and organizations listed here, as well as discounts on program-related products when you shop online at the **NET Store** – [netNebraska.org](http://netNebraska.org).

**Abendmusik: Lincoln, Inc.**

2000 D St., Lincoln, NE  
402.476.9933

A community concert series founded in 1972.  
\$2 off any single ticket purchase during the concert season.

**Ainsworth Inn Bed & Breakfast**

400 N. Main, Ainsworth, NE  
888.387.0408

Step back into early 1900s in this boarding house B&B. 10% discount on the rate of a regular room (excluding Labor Day weekend and the week of the Country Music Festival).

**Angels Company, Lincoln, NE**

402.474.2206

A performance group consisting of actors, dancers, musicians and visual artists.

\$1 off admission.

**Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historical Park**

2 miles west and 6 miles north of Royal, NE  
402.893.2000

View hundreds of long-extinct animals frozen in time. 20% off gift shop.

**Beatrice Community Players**

412 Ella St., Beatrice, NE  
402.228.1801

High-quality live theatrical entertainment including top-name plays, musicals and other events.

\$1 off admission.

**Bellevue Little Theatre**

203 W. Mission, Bellevue, NE  
402.291.1554

In its 37th season of providing award-winning outstanding live theatre.

Enjoy one complimentary single admission when you purchase one adult single admission at regular price.

**Blue Moon Coffee House**

635 W. 2nd St., Hastings, NE  
402.452.5214

313 W. 3rd St., Grand Island, NE  
308.398.5214

Your local coffee house serving standard and specialty coffee drinks with a full lunch menu.

\$1 discount on any specialty drink (cannot be combined with any other offer).

**Cambridge Bed & Breakfast**

606 Parker, Cambridge, NE  
308.697.3220

An artistic and historic home with modern amenities.

10% discount on the rate of a regular room (excluding Hunting Packages).

**The Coffee House**

1324 P St., Lincoln, NE  
402.477.6611

1010 Lincoln Mall, Lincoln, NE  
402.483.9132

Offering Fair Trade and organic coffee by the cup or whole bean, specialty drinks and desserts.

Buy one select specialty drink, get one select specialty drink free (cannot be combined with any other discount or gift certificate).

**Edgerton Exploriter Center**

208 16th St., Aurora, NE  
877.694.4032

The mystery and fun of science come to life through interactive exhibits and science demonstrations.

\$1 off regular admission price, 20% off the Exploriter Gift Store purchases, 50% off meeting room rental plus free electronic sign promotion, 20% off Edgerton On The Move (traveling science demonstrations) at your events.

**El Museo Latino**

4701 S. 25th St., Omaha, NE  
402.731.1137

The first Latino art and history museum and cultural center in Nebraska.

Receive \$1 off admission and 10% discount in the museum's Gift Shop.

**Friends of the Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center**

313 N. 13th St., Lincoln, NE  
402.472.5353

Experience the new Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center – committed to screening a wide diversity of high-quality film and video.

10% discount on all levels of membership in the Friends of the Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center (NET Card holders must show card to get a discount).

**Hastings Museum/Lied Super Screen Theatre**

1330 N. Burlington Ave, Hastings, NE  
800.508.4629

Enjoy three huge floors of exhibits, the J. M. McDonald Planetarium with daily sky shows and five-story-tall Lied Super Screen Theatre.

Half-price museum/planetarium admission with each large-format film admission, 20% off in The Museum Store (not valid with any other discounts).

**Hastings Symphony Orchestra**

Hastings, NE  
402.462.8389

Bringing "Music for us all." We welcome you all to laugh, weep and discover together.

\$1 discount on each ticket sold at the door for individual subscription concerts.

**James Arthur Vineyards**

2100 West Raymond Rd., Raymond, NE  
402.783.5255

We offer award-winning wines, from aged dry reds to sweet whites with everything in between.

10% discount on individual bottles of wine and a 15% discount on cases of wine (may be mixed).

**Lincoln Children's Museum**

1420 P St., Lincoln, NE  
402.477.4000

The Lincoln Children's Museum offers three floors of hands-on exhibits for families and is recognized as one of the top 20 children's museums in the U.S.

10% discount on regularly priced items in the Museum Store.

**Lincoln Community Playhouse**

2500 S. 56th St., Lincoln, NE  
402.489.7529

Enriching the cultural life of our city for 60 seasons. Celebrate the power of community involvement in live theatre.

\$2 off any regularly priced ticket in the Main Stage season (any other discounts excluded).

**Lincoln Friends of Chamber Music**

12th & R St., Lincoln, NE  
402.435.5454

Providing southeast Nebraska with superior chamber music. Performances in the unique setting of the Sheldon Art Gallery.

\$5 discount on regularly priced LFCM concerts.

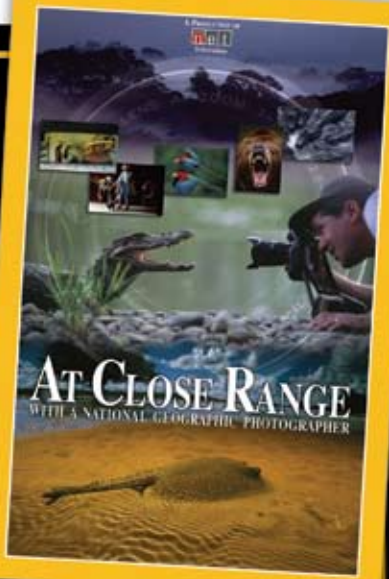
**Lincoln Symphony Orchestra**

Lincoln, NE  
402.476.2211

Experience the finest in classical music, including an exciting family series.

10% off regular single ticket price to any concert this season.

## You're Invited



As a *National Geographic* photographer Lincoln native Joel Sartore visits the world's most exotic places, experiencing new cultures and glimpsing endangered species in their natural habitats.

But reality presents a picture far different from that of endless adventure and sublime scenes. Sartore has wrangled with Amazonian flesh-eating parasites; a group of stalking wolves in a desolate Yellowstone snowfield; the thundering hooves of wild horses inches from his face; and swarms of ferocious mosquitoes. He spends hour after hour, patiently waiting in cramped positions, to capture the perfect shot.

NET invites you to attend a benefit event featuring Joel Sartore on April 30, at 7 p.m. at the Rococo Theatre in Lincoln.

With his trademark sense of humor Sartore will share images from his past assignments while offering an inside look at the successes he's achieved, as well as the failures and the occasional snafu he's endured, during his prolific 17-year career with *National Geographic* magazine. Twelve Sartore prints will also go on the block in a silent auction.

Tickets are \$35. Call the Rococo at 402.476.6540 for reservations. All proceeds will benefit NET.

## Memorial Gifts



Memorial gifts are a lasting memory of your loved one's commitment to the mission of NET Television and NET Radio. This legacy becomes a part of our endowed Funds for the Future, which help ensure the future of public broadcasting in Nebraska.

### Gifts were recently received in memory of:

Walter H. Alexander  
Frank Dienstbier  
Howard Holstein  
Gary A. Jones

Dorothy Lawver  
Paul Sautter  
Quida Smith

To learn how to make a memorial gift, contact Amanda Garner at [agarner@netnebraska.org](mailto:agarner@netnebraska.org) or 800.634.6788.



# NET Card

## Morrill Hall University of Nebraska State Museum

14th & U St., Lincoln, NE  
402.472.2646  
Nebraska's largest natural history museum.  
\$1 off family admission.

## Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA)

2401 Central Ave., Kearney, NE  
308.865.8559  
Experience more than 175 years of great art from the 19th century to the contemporary scene.  
10% discount at the museum shop.

## Museum of the Fur Trade

6321 Highway 20, Chadron, NE  
308.432.3843  
See the history of the first business in North America – the fur trade.  
Receive one free admission per visit.

## The Nebraska Brass

Lincoln, NE  
402.477.7899  
Combinations of classical and popular music, Dixieland and jazz. Performing in Lincoln, Omaha and various locations throughout Eastern Nebraska.  
\$2 off single admission ticket price for any Concert Series concert.

## Nebraska Golfing Green Card

800.401.7888  
The Golfing Green Card is your passport to a fun-filled, golf-filled summer. Enjoy a free or highly discounted round of golf at 174 area golf courses.  
Save \$5 on each Green Card.

## Nebraska Jazz Orchestra

Lincoln, NE  
402.477.8446  
One of the Midwest's premier big bands, the ensemble presents legendary compositions by jazz masters such as Woody Herman, Duke Ellington and Count Basie.  
\$2 off single admission ticket price for any Concert Series concert.

## Nebraska Trumpet Ensemble

Lincoln, NE  
402.477.7899  
Performing trumpet ensemble literature and commissioning new works for trumpet ensemble.  
\$1 off single admission ticket price for any Concert Series concert.

## John G. Neihardt State Historical Site

Bancroft, NE  
402.648.3388  
Honoring Nebraska's poet-laureate; featuring exhibits of Neihardt's life and work.  
10% discount on books and gift shop items.

## Norfolk Arts Center

305 N. 5th St., Norfolk, NE  
402.371.7199  
The Norfolk Arts Center specializes in "Bringing People and the Arts Together!" through exhibits, performances, classes and other special events.  
Enjoy one complimentary adult single admission when you purchase one adult single admission at regular price.

## Omaha Children's Museum

500 S. 20th St., Omaha, NE  
402.342.6164  
Providing hands-on interactive exhibits and programming to introduce young people to the arts, humanities, science and technology.  
\$1 off each admission (limit 6 per group).

## Omaha Symphony Association

1605 Howard St., Omaha, NE  
402.342.3560  
See a variety of programs from classical to family concerts to world-renowned guest performers. Performing at the state-of-the-art Holland Performing Arts Center.  
15% discount on single tickets to MasterWorks, Light Classics and Discovery Series concerts (not valid with any other offer).

## Opera Omaha

409 S. 16th St., Omaha, NE  
877.346.7372  
Opera Omaha, bringing world class artists and productions to the historic Orpheum Theatre.  
Discount up to 30% off regular ticket price. Offer good only for advance ticket sales; special order form must be used.

## The Petrified Wood Gallery

521 E. 1st St., Ogallala, NE  
308.284.9996  
The Gallery is a showcase of natural history specializing in ancient woods, fossils, Indian arrowheads and artifacts.  
10% discount on gift shop purchases. Exclusions apply.

## Prairie Books & Gifts

641 W. 2nd St., Hastings, NE  
402.462.6205  
Your full service independent bookstore since 1976, featuring "The Nebraska Room" and a large children's department. Special orders always welcome.  
10% discount on regular price items excluding magazines.

## Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery

12th & R St., Lincoln, NE  
402.472.2461  
Located on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus, the Sheldon houses more than 12,000 works of art in all media.  
10% on museum store purchases (excluding any other discount or offer).

## Shepherd's Inn Bed & Breakfast, Inc.

RR 3 Box 108A, Ord, NE  
308.728.3306  
Enjoy a quiet escape tucked away in the heart of the country.  
10% discount on a regular room (excluding holidays, area festivals and other discounts).

## Sisters' House

412 Garfield, Stuart, NE  
877.773.3390  
Formerly a convent, this bed & breakfast now features period décor on the upper floor and a rustic cottage style on the lower level.  
10% discount on the rate of a regular room.

## Soaring Wings Vineyard

17111 S. 138th St., Springfield, NE  
402.253.2479  
International award-winning wines and spectacular views of the Platte River Valley await.  
Receive a 10% discount on each bottle of wine and 15% off on all cases of wine.

## Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer

3133 W. Hwy 34, Grand Island, NE  
308.385.5316  
Visit one of the nation's top ten living history museums.  
\$1 off any regularly priced admission (discount not valid with any other offer).

## Third Chair Chamber Players

8th & P St., Lincoln, NE  
402.429.8227  
Take a journey through the genealogy of chamber music from early Baroque to the present.  
\$1 discount on individual adult ticket.

## Trailside Museum of Natural History,

Fort Robinson State Park  
308.665.2929  
Spectacular paleontology and geology exhibits.  
20% off gift shop.

## Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery

702 Main St., Brownville, NE  
402.825.4601  
Experience excellent wine and an engaging escape. Whiskey Run Creek works with varieties of grapes to locally produce distinct and flavorful wines.  
10% discount off wine and gifts from Whiskey Run Creek Vineyard & Winery (excluding any other discount or offer).



## Upcoming Events

### April

#### NET Benefit Event with Photographer Joel Sartore April 30, 7 p.m.

#### Rococo Theatre, Lincoln

With his trademark sense of humor, *National Geographic* photographer Joel Sartore will share images from past assignments while offering an inside look at the successes he's achieved, as well as the failures and the occasional snafu

he's endured, during his prolific 17-year career with *National Geographic* magazine. Twelve Sartore prints will also go on the block in a silent auction. Tickets are \$35. Call the Rococo at 402.476.6540 for reservations. All proceeds will benefit NET. A VIP Reception with Sartore will be held prior, tickets for the private reception are \$100.



# Out *and* About

## A *Prairie Home Companion* Bus Tour

NET Radio's annual bus excursion took 54 fans from across Nebraska to St. Paul, Minnesota, to see Garrison Keillor perform live during the broadcast of *A Prairie Home Companion*. The trip, September 30-October 2, included a St. Paul Chamber Orchestra concert, a riverboat cruise on the St. Croix River and a visit to historic sites in Mason City, Iowa, as well as a sneak peek at upcoming NET Television productions.

Keillor will soon hit the big screen when the new Robert Altman film, based on *A Prairie Home Companion*, is released in June.



## Ted Kooser's Poetic World

NET Television was pleased to bring the Kearney community the first public screening of *Ted Kooser's Poetic World* at the University of Nebraska-Kearney Fine Arts Recital Hall on November 3. Following the screening, UNK students offered a poetry reading to guests.



## Fall and winter brought a flurry of activity at NET. Here's a look at some of the events that took place in recent months.

### A Night at the Ross

The Mary Reipma Ross Media Arts Center in Lincoln spotlighted NET Television programs with a double feature on November 18. Theatergoers enjoyed *Ted Kooser's Poetic World* followed by *At Close Range: On Assignment with National Geographic*. The event was co-sponsored by the Friends of the State Museum (Morrill Hall) and Friends of the Mary Reipma Ross Media Arts Center. *National Geographic* photographer Joel Sartore and his family attended the event and greeted audience members.

### Warding Off Winter's Chill

NET members gathered for a cozy screening of *At Close Range: On Assignment with National Geographic* at the Fontenelle Nature Association in Bellevue on February 9 and March 9. The "Fireside Film" was followed by a dessert buffet.



### In the Mood

Guests kicked up their heels to the tunes of the Nebraska Jazz Orchestra when NET hosted a live big band concert and dance at the historic Sokol Auditorium in Omaha on March 3. The event, which was emceed by noted swing aficionado and NET Radio personality Don Gill (host of *Big Band Spotlight*), was staged for NET Television cameras to capture the feel and sound of the '30s and '40s for a future production.

### Fiddlin' Around

NET Radio listeners enjoyed toe-tapping tunes on February 17 when *Live From The Mill Statewide* broadcast live from Beatrice. Host William Stibor spotlighted the Monumental Fiddle Championship, an annual fiddle contest held at the Homestead National Monument, as well as live music from the Beatrice Community Players' production of *Gypsy* and the barbershop ensemble the Homestead Harmonizers. NET Radio partnered with the Beatrice Arts Council to present the *Live From The Mill* broadcast.

For more information call 800.634-6788 or visit [netNebraska.org](http://netNebraska.org).

### June

Annual NET Foundation Board Meetings and Social Dinner  
June 23, Lincoln

*Live From The Mill Statewide* in Kearney  
June 9

*Live From The Mill Statewide* in Alliance  
June 30



### July

Screening of *At Close Range: On Assignment with National Geographic*  
July 26

Rodeo Theater, Burwell



### October

Screening of *At Close Range: On Assignment with National Geographic*  
October 14  
Midwest Theater Film Festival  
Scottsbluff

*Andre Rieu in Concert*  
October 31  
Pershing Center,  
Lincoln



See the famed Dutch violinist live in Lincoln! NET supporters who pledge \$200 now to the NET Foundation for Television will receive two best seat tickets to Rieu's October concert. Pledge online at [netNebraska.org](http://netNebraska.org) or call 800.634-6788.

# ANTARCTIC JOURNEY



## A DAY IN THE LIFE



**NET Producer Gary Hochman, audio engineer Jim Lenertz and videographers Pat Aylward and Brian Sefferlein recently traveled to Antarctica to cover the ANDRILL expedition for a future NET production. ANDRILL is UNL's international geological drilling program investigating Antarctica's role in global climate change.**

**Below are excerpts from Hochman's journal. For details of the ANDRILL program, see <http://andrill.org>.**

### OCTOBER 14, 2005

The runway is bulldozed ice. After we land, we notice an Air Force guy walking around the plane with a pole. He's checking the thickness of the ice to gauge how much the plane is sinking. Sinking? The C-17 weighs 80,000 tons and will actually sink about eight inches on the sea ice. This is comforting and unsettling. We'll be staying on sea ice at the ANDRILL field camp, so I now know there's little danger of falling through thin ice. On the other hand, this C-17 is slowly sinking, and we're standing around talking about it.



### OCTOBER 15, 2005

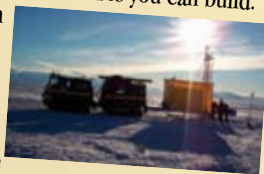
Eating is a main activity here – we're told we should eat 6,000 calories per day! One scientist was lathering his bread with so much butter my arteries hardened. The idea is that you have to take in high calories because your body is working overtime to maintain body heat in the extreme cold. This is a license to eat chocolate.

### OCTOBER 22, 2005

We just completed Happy Camper Survival Training. It started out happy...and it ended happy, but the middle was so far from happy that I'd suggest a name change.

It began with a march to what looks like icy archeological ruins – remains of previous Happy Camper expeditions. Next we built an ice structure called a Quinzee. We heaped mounds of snow on a pile of sleeping bags, let the snow freeze, dug a trench to get under the bags and dragged them out. We were left with an igloo-like structure, one of the warmest survival structures you can build.

In the afternoon a storm came up – we were forced to build a 360-degree wall around the tents. We spent more than two hours building and stacking snow blocks to waist-high level. Exhausting!



During the night, the temperature dropped to -12F, with a wind chill of -52F. Three team members shared the Quinzee, and four of us shared a Scott tent, which normally houses two people. We were stacked like sardines, head to toe. I did not sleep well.

Our equipment took a beating during the storm. We were so busy preparing that we didn't get the camera under a tent for an hour. By the time we did, the viewfinder was out of commission and the battery had died. The camera recovered when we got back to McMurdo [National Science Foundation base], but it was a good scare.

*NET's production team spent eight days on sea ice at the ANDRILL camp, where scientists conducted seismic surveys with an air gun to select a location for next year's drilling.*

### OCTOBER 27, 2005

Air guns have been used in deep ocean drilling for years, but this is the first time they've been used beneath ice. ANDRILL is pioneering a new seismic process.

A 13-inch hole is drilled. The air gun is lowered. "Fire in the hole" sounds over the radio. Silence. Then a shuddering blast and a jarring thud that literally shakes the ice beneath our feet. We glance uneasily at each other and quickly check to see if the ice is cracking. All is well. Nine feet of ice is surprisingly thick, even when it's detonated with a blast of air that rivals an explosion.



### OCTOBER 28, 2005

The seismic process becomes like an assembly line. Every 20 minutes a hole is drilled and four air gun blasts are made. By the end of the day the ANDRILL team has completed 25 holes. The new seismic system works!

All work stops when a penguin appears. We're told that most lone penguins don't survive. It's against the law to help – or hinder – them. Perhaps the little fella will find one of our drill holes and swim to safety.

### NOVEMBER 2, 2005

Today we are scheduled to leave McMurdo. The winds are blowing strong. I check the flight schedule, and already there is a notice – a 24-hour delay. We're stranded.

### NOVEMBER 3, 2005

The winds have picked up again. Our flight is cancelled. Two days in a row. Welcome to Antarctica!

*The gang finally departed Antarctica on November 4 and arrived safely back in Nebraska on November 6.*

#### PARTNERS

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